United Nations S/PV.7100

Security Council

Sixty-ninth year

Provisional

7100th meeting

Thursday, 23 January 2014, 10.10 a.m.

New York

President:	Prince Zeid Ra'ad Zeid Al-Hussein	(Jordan)
Members:	Argentina	Ms. Millicay
	Australia	Ms. King
	Chad	Mr. Mangaral
	Chile	Mr. Errázuriz
	China	Mr. Liu Jieyi
	France	Mr. Bertoux
	Lithuania	Ms. Murmokaitė
	Luxembourg	Mr. Maes
	Nigeria	Mr. Laro
	Republic of Korea	Mr. Oh Joon
	Russian Federation	Mr. Pankin
	Rwanda	Mr. Nduhungirehe
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Sir Mark Lyall Grant
	United States of America	Ms. Power

Agenda

Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan

Report of the Secretary-General on the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (S/2014/26)

This record contains the text of speeches delivered in English and of the interpretation of speeches delivered in the other languages. The final text will be printed in the *Official Records of the Security Council*. Corrections should be submitted to the original languages only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room U-506.

14-21369 (E)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.10 a.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan

Report of the Secretary-General on the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (S/2014/26)

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): In accordance with rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure, I invite the representative of the Sudan to participate in this meeting.

In accordance with rule 39 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure, I invite Mr. Hervé Ladsous, Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, to participate in this meeting.

The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda.

I wish to draw the attention of Council members to document S/2014/26, which contains the report of the Secretary-General on the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur.

I now give the floor to Mr. Ladsous.

Mr. Ladsous (*spoke in French*): I thank you, Mr. President, for giving me the opportunity to brief the Council on the situation in Darfur. The Council has before it the report of the Secretary-General of 15 January (S/2014/26), and I would like to give the Council some additional information on the most recent developments with regard to the peace process, security and the humanitarian situation.

At the outset, in a context in which the peace process is making only limited progress, the security situation in Darfur remains unstable, particularly in terms of intercommunal violence. That, of course, has a major impact on civilians, especially given the limited access of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID) to vulnerable populations. Moreover, we have noted a continued increase in attacks by armed assailants on UNAMID and humanitarian workers, which is a cause of serious concern. Unfortunately, it must be said that to date the Government has not prosecuted the perpetrators, despite the Sudanese Government's promises to investigate and arrest those involved.

In addition to the armed clashes described in the report before the Council, I would also like to cite two additional recent examples, beginning with an incident that occurred on 9 January, involving clashes between the Karbino and Abu Bashir militia groups, which originally belonged to the Sudan Liberation Army (SLA)-Minni Minawi, in Khor Abeche in Southern Darfur, which dominates that region. The fighting erupted during a meeting at which operations were being discussed. Ten members of the Abu Bashir militia, including its leaders, were killed, while there were three dead and 11 injured on the Karbino side. During the fighting, a fire broke out in the nearby internally displaced persons (IDP) camp and destroyed 100 shelters. Therefore, the affected displaced persons had to seek shelter on UNAMID's base.

Another incident erupted on 12 January. UNAMID sent reinforcements from Labado in eastern Darfur to Khor Abeche to strengthen security in the IDP camp, which was under serious threat. The situation is now calm.

As the Council is aware, Darfur has been the scene of an increasing number of attacks on Government personnel and civilians by armed elements — gangs — that generally seek to steal vehicles and various resources. This occurred on 7 January, when a commercial convoy of 300 vehicles carrying supplies to the Sudanese Armed Forces, near Nertiti in central Darfur, was ambushed by elements of the Sudan Liberation Army-Abdul Wahid. Six vehicles with their drivers were seized by the attackers. An operation carried out immediately thereafter by the Sudanese Armed Forces recovered the stolen vehicles, and resulted in the death of 12 militia members and nine arrests.

Looking at the situation overall and in the light of all the serious threats faced by UNAMID and humanitarian workers as a result of all the targeted armed attacks and carjackings, robberies and banditry, it is with great sadness that I must say that no fewer than 16 peacekeepers were killed as a result of hostile acts in 2013. That is a 50 per cent increase over the previous year, which brings to 57 the number of peacekeepers killed since the Mission was deployed six years ago. Clearly, we must offer our condolences to the Government and families of the members of the military

and police personnel who have been killed. I believe that also we must condemn in the strongest terms those responsible for the attacks. The Government of the Sudan must investigate and bring the perpetrators to justice expeditiously.

On 29 December 2013, the most recent attack took place in which a Senegalese and a Jordanian policemen were killed. Since then, we have been informed that the attacker had been arrested at the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europene of the crime but was freed on bail. I think it is only right to expect the Government of the Sudan to complete the investigation as swiftly as possible, share its conclusions with UNAMID and bring the parties to justice.

The last time I was personally in Darfur, in July, there was an extremely serious attack in the Jebel Marra area of southern Sudan. Three Nigerian soldiers were seriously injured. I visited them in hospital. We know that three of the attackers were killed because our Nigerian soldiers put up a good fight. However, we never determined anything with regard to where they had come from, who they represented, or to which group they may have belonged. We expect the Government of the Sudan to devote due diligence to that inquiry.

(*spoke in English*)

Secondly, with regard to the peace process, it must be said that the implementation of the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur has progressed very slowly. While I can report that the signatories have achieved some limited progress, primarily in the areas of planning and administration, that success, if one can call it that, did not result in direct and significant benefits to the general population of Darfur. It seems clear that the parties must accelerate the implementation of the outstanding provisions of the agreement and place increased focus on the dividends of peace — tangible benefits to local communities, which must of course include the displaced persons, who now number close to 2 million.

The African Union and United Nations Joint Special Representative and Joint Chief Mediator for Darfur, Mohamed ibn Chambas, continues to work with the parties to the conflict and the countries of the region to reach a cessation of hostilities so as to enable humanitarian access and continue progress towards an inclusive peace agreement. In December 2013, Mr. Chambas held, in collaboration with the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, a technical workshop on peace and security for representatives of the SLA-Minni Minawi and the Justice and Equality Movement-Jibril Ibrahim in Addis Ababa. The movements expressed their readiness, under the umbrella of the Sudanese Revolutionary Front, to engage in negotiations with the Government on a cessation of hostilities. They also pledged their commitment to providing unrestricted access for humanitarian and development personnel to areas under their control. Further engagement with the movements still holding out, which hitherto have been unmoved towards joining the peace process, is planned for early 2014.

Turning now to the humanitarian situation, it must be concluded that during 2013 it deteriorated significantly. An estimated 400,000 additional people were forced to flee new outbreaks of conflict. That figure represents more than the combined number of displacements that occurred during 2011 and 2012. The total number of internally displaced people has now increased to almost 2 million. It is clear that protracted displacement, food insecurity and a lack of basic services drive chronic vulnerability in the region. Malnutrition rates are above emergency thresholds in all five of the states of Darfur, and less than 10 per cent of the population has access to both clean water and improved sanitation. High levels of humanitarian need are expected to persist in 2014. A total of 3.5 million people — approximately 30 per cent of the population of Darfur — currently receive humanitarian assistance from the international community.

Turning to the prospects, the overall security situation in Darfur obviously remains volatile and, in fact, deteriorated over the course of 2013. In this regard, and as requested in resolution 2113 (2013), a strategic review was conducted by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the African Union, UNAMID and the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes to look at ways to improve UNAMID's impact on the ground. The review assessed the implications for the Mission of emerging conflict dynamics, analysed the Mission's ability to address the drivers of conflict, and set out recommendations for improving the Mission's effectiveness.

Several key challenges were identified by the review, including the cooperation of the Government in the implementation of the mandate, UNAMID's internal management, including coordination with the country team, and the capacities of its troop and police

components. We are now working on developing a concrete plan to address these challenges. The complete findings and recommendations of the review will be communicated to the Council, as requested, by the end of February.

As Council members are aware, the current crisis in South Sudan has had an impact on Darfur, with a reported influx of South Sudanese into eastern Darfur and other parts of the Sudan. Darfur armed movements have reportedly taken part in the fighting in South Sudan, and nomadic communities are unable to pass into South Sudan on their seasonal migration. One must commend the approach taken by President Al-Bashir in this regard, but I would like to point out that this crisis has the potential to draw in many of the Sudanese rebel movements and to unravel the efforts not only to resolve the crisis in Darfur, but also the conflict in the Southern Kordofan/Blue Nile area and, more broadly, the efforts to normalize Sudan/South Sudan relations.

To conclude, let me say again that the security situation in Darfur continues to be unstable and the protection needs of the local population remain considerable. Efforts must continue to address the associated challenges facing humanitarian and protection actors in the short term, including through the increased support of UNAMID to local mediation efforts. But at the same time, it is clear that finding lasting solutions for the affected local population in Darfur lies inherently in the larger political context of Darfur. That means the need for a ceasefire and a comprehensive peace agreement.

At the same time, there is a need to address better, with the Government, the issue of improved access to populations affected by conflict. I strongly urge the Government to observe the terms of the status-of-forces agreement and to ensure that Mission personnel have full and unhindered freedom of movement for the substantive implementation of the mandate throughout Darfur.

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): I thank Mr. Ladsous for his briefing.

I now give the floor to the representative of the Sudan.

Mr. Hassan (Sudan) (*spoke in Arabic*): At the outset, I should like to congratulate you, Sir, on your assumption of the presidency of the Security Council this month. Your friendly and brotherly country, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, plays a leading role in building peace at the regional and international levels. That means that we expect a great deal from you, Sir, in your capacity as President of the Security Council. I would like, through you, Sir, also congratulate the other new members of the Council — Chad, brotherly Nigeria, Chile and Lithuania, with whom we have a great many ties. I would be remiss if I did not thank Mr. Hervé Ladsous, Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, for his briefing, even though we do not share all of his positions on all matters.

Among the main elements of the report that was submitted for the Council's consideration (S/2014/26), paragraph 2 states that progress towards the implementation of the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur has been made. How has it made progress? That is the starting point of an assessment of the situation in Darfur. Even though we recognize that, during the period covered by the report, tribal clashes have taken place, leading to very difficult humanitarian conditions in a number of cases, tribal clashes are as ancient as Darfur itself. Nature certainly plays a leading role in those clashes and confrontations, which often take place as a result of competition for natural resources — water, pasture land and, recently, local gold mines. The clashes are thus ancient ones.

The Government of the Sudan has undertaken a great many initiatives aimed at reconciliation, which have led to reconciliation agreements between the various tribes, such as those that took place between the Abalia and the Beni Hussein, between the Salamat and the Misseriya, between the Ma'alia and the Rezeigat, and between the Rezeigat and the Hamar. The Government continues to attempt put an end to the clashes and confrontations between the various tribes in Darfur.

That having been said, the Council should not forget that the implementation of the Doha Document has made progress and continues along the agreed path, despite, naturally, certain delays in a number of areas. There are indeed some delays, but there are reasons for that.

First, the loss of oil resources has had a great impact on the Sudan, following South Sudan's independence. Members of the Council should know that the loss of those resources has had an impact on the economic situation of the Sudan.

Secondly, the slow pace of the implementation of the commitments undertaken by the various donors during the Doha Conference is also a cause of delay. That leads us to launch an international appeal from this Chamber to ensure that commitments with respect the Sudan be met and that sanctions be lifted in order for the Government to be in a position to continue its operations aimed at peace, development and reconstruction in Darfur.

In that respect, I would also like to state that delays in a number of areas of work also result partially from the fact that a number of groups that had joined the peace process have been targeted. Members of the Council will recall that Mr. Mohammed Bashar and a number of other leaders who had joined the Doha peace process were killed last year, thus causing additional delay in the implementation of the Doha Document. Despite all of that, the Government is committed to continuing the peace process.

In his statement, Mr. Ladsous referred to the importance of arresting and bringing to justice those who recently attacked the African Union/United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID). However, pursuant to paragraph 4 of the report of the Secretary-General, the Office of the Special Prosecutor for Darfur — an office set up pursuant to the Doha Document — has initiated a number of inquiries and investigations into those incidents, including the most recent attack, on 7 January, in the region of Gereida. That is in addition to other existing inquiries. We had already informed the Security Council of the rulings of the Special Criminal Court on the Events in Darfur, which included the imposition of the death penalty in the case of the incident related to Abu Zerega, which was referred to the penultimate report of the Secretary-General (S/2013/607), together with 56 other inquiries under way.

I would also like to report that the Sudanese Government has invited the African Union (AU), in cooperation with UNAMID, to have the AU send experts to witness that judicial proceedings are in line with international standards. That reaffirms the effectiveness of Sudanese institutions, their impartiality and their effective operational ability.

When it comes to the implementation of the Darfur Development Strategy, in conformity with paragraph 6 of report of the Secretary-General, a number of commercial agreements were reached between local contractors and the Darfur Regional Authority to implement 315 projects of an overall value of $82.5 million, in cooperation with the country team, involving the construction or rehabilitation of education, electricity, health-care and water services.

Members of the Council know that the Implementation Follow-up Commission on the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur meets regularly, the last meeting having taken place on 16 December in El Fasher.

As to the political issues, we welcome the role played by Mr. Mohamed Ibn Chambas, African Union and United Nations Joint Special Representative and Joint Chief Mediator for Darfur, in bringing in those movements that reject peace and the Doha Document. What remains lacking in that regard is action by the Security Council. I would like to refer in that respect to Chad, a brotherly country, and the initiative of its President, Mr. Idriss Deby Itno, aimed at gathering various rebel groups in Um Jaras to ensure that the movements join the peace process. What is lacking, therefore, is the role to be played by the Security Council.

Mr. Ladsous said quite clearly that the rebel groups in Darfur were clashing even outside the borders of the Sudan, including in a brotherly country where we would prefer to see peace and stability prevail, namely, South Sudan. As Mr. Ladsous said, those Darfur factions are parties to the conflict in South Sudan. We had already reiterated to the Council that dealing with those groups in a flexible way — cutting them slack, as the saying goes — gave them the impression, in fact, that they had the green light to participate in clashes and conflict beyond Darfur, including in the south of Kordofan and in the north and east of Kordofan, at the very heart of the Sudan.

The Security Council has heard the various briefings, but it has not played the role it has been assigned, namely, to exert the necessary pressure on those groups and to support the efforts of Joint Special Representative Chambas.

Mohamed Ibn Chambas was invited to Arusha and held a technical workshop in Addis Ababa, as noted by Mr. Ladsous, in which he invited the various rebel groups to participate. However, those groups chose the path of armed confrontation. The Security Council must therefore exert pressure on those groups to join the political process, sign the Doha Document for Peace

in Darfur, end their procrastination and renounce all of their impossible preconditions so that everyone can work together for the development, reconstruction and revitalization of the Sudan.

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): There are no more names inscribed on the list of speakers. I now invite Council members to informal consultations to continue our discussion of the subject.

The meeting rose at 10.40 a.m.

United Nations S/PV.7101

Security Council

Sixty-ninth year

Provisional

7101st meeting

Monday, 27 January 2014, 10 a.m.

New York

President:	Mr. Hmoud	(Jordan)
Members:	Argentina	Mr. Oyarzábal
	Australia	Ms. King
	Chad	Mr. Mangaral
	Chile	Mr. Errázuriz
	China	Mr. Wang Min
	France	Mr. Araud
	Lithuania	Ms. Murmokaitė
	Luxembourg	Ms. Lucas
	Nigeria	Mr. Laro
	Republic of Korea	Mr. Oh Joon
	Russian Federation	Mr. Iliichev
	Rwanda	Mr. Nduhungirehe
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Sir Mark Lyall Grant
	United States of America	Mr. DeLaurentis

Agenda

Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts

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14-21730 (E)

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The meeting was called to order at 10 a.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda.

Members of the Council have before them document S/2014/38, which contains the text of a draft resolution submitted by Australia, France, Jordan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Nigeria, Rwanda, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

It is my understanding that the Council is ready to proceed to the vote on the draft resolution before it. I shall put the draft resolution to the vote now.

A vote was taken by show of hands.

In favour:

Argentina, Australia, Chad, Chile, China, France, Jordan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Nigeria, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Rwanda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): There were 15 votes in favour. The draft resolution has been adopted unanimously as resolution 2133 (2014).

I now give the floor to those members of the Council who wish to make statements after the voting.

Mr. Oyarzábal (Argentina) (*spoke in Spanish*): First, I wish to reaffirm Argentina's position condemning terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, as well as our commitment to the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. At the same time, I reiterate that the general framework for a response to terrorism must always be full respect for international law, international humanitarian law, international human rights law, and the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

Argentina recognizes that it is important for the issue of kidnapping for ransom as a possible form of financing for terrorist groups to begin to be considered in the framework of the United Nations so as to establish an explicit link between hostage-taking and terrorism, as it arises from the preamble of the International Convention against the Taking of Hostages, adopted by the General Assembly on 17 December 1979 (resolution 34/146, annex). At the same time, we understand that while this is a complex phenomenon, it is not universal but is limited to certain geographic regions. Given such complexity, which extends to definitions and legal details that are lacking in the resolution and that must be agreed on a multilateral basis, we believe that the phenomenon needs to be addressed at the multilateral level.

Argentina believes that the response to a hostage situation or kidnapping should take its specific circumstances into account, and that we must prioritize the lives of hostages over other considerations. In this sense, we must consider the implementation of measures to identify, freeze, seize or confiscate the funds or other property constituting the proceeds of the crime of hostage-taking, as provided for by the International Convention against the Taking of Hostages, given that the Convention does not necessarily penalize the payment of ransom.

All this makes it clear that resolution 2133 (2014) should be implemented via an approach conducive to advancing our consideration of the issue. Beyond promoting its discussion in the Counter-Terrorism Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001), the Council has decided to call upon all Member States to cooperate closely, clearly recognizing the need for expert-level discussions in the broader context of the United Nations and other relevant international and regional organizations.

Argentina believes that, beyond not establishing new legal obligations for Members, the resolution has the symbolic value of reflecting the Council's unanimous agreement that dialogue should be initiated on ways of combating this particular form of financing of terrorism. Such United Nations dialogue, which Argentina supports, must take place in the context of the General Assembly, which is not only the competent forum, but which will also ensure the participation of all Member States in a matter of such importance in order to move towards the necessary consensus.

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on its agenda.

The meeting rose at 10.10 a.m.

United Nations S/PV.7102

Security Council

Sixty-ninth year

Provisional

7102nd meeting

Monday, 27 January 2014, 10.10 a.m.

New York

President:	Mr. Hmoud	(Jordan)
Members:	Argentina	Mr. Oyarzábal
	Australia	Ms. King
	Chad	Mr. Mangaral
	Chile	Mr. Errázuriz
	China	Mr. Wang Min
	France	Mr. Araud
	Lithuania	Ms. Murmokaitė
	Luxembourg	Ms. Lucas
	Nigeria	Mr. Laro
	Republic of Korea	Mr. Oh Joon
	Russian Federation	Mr. Iliichev
	Rwanda	Mr. Nduhungirehe
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Mr. Wilson
	United States of America	Mr. DeLaurentis

Agenda

The situation in Côte d'Ivoire

Thirty-third progress report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (S/2013/761)

This record contains the text of speeches delivered in English and of the interpretation of speeches delivered in the other languages. The final text will be printed in the *Official Records of the Security Council*. Corrections should be submitted to the original languages only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room U-506.

14-21736 (E)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.10 a.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation in Côte d'Ivoire

Thirty-third progress report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (S/2013/761)

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): Under rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure, I invite the representative of Côte d'Ivoire to participate in this meeting.

Under rule 39 of the Council's provisional rules of procedures, I invite Ms. Aïchatou Mindaoudou Souleymane, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Côte d'Ivoire and Head of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire, to participate in this meeting.

On behalf of the Council, I welcome Ms. Mindaoudou, who is joining us today via video-teleconference from Abidjan.

The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda.

I wish to draw the attention of Council members to document S/2013/761, which contains the thirty-third progress report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Operation in Côte D'Ivoire.

I now give the floor to Ms. Mindaoudou.

Ms. Mindaoudou: It is a great honour for me to address the Security Council for the first time since I assumed my responsibilities as Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Côte d'Ivoire, in July 2013.

Côte d'Ivoire continues to make good progress, and the country is firmly on the path to lasting peace and stability. Socioeconomic reforms implemented by the Government are beginning to have tangible results, with good economic growth, an influx of foreign investment and a renewed private sector. The Government has initiated a series of institutional reforms aimed at enhancing political inclusiveness, including putting in place legislation requested by the political opposition on the financing of political parties.

As the report before the Council (S/2013/761) underscores, the Government, under President Ouattara's leadership, has made significant conciliatory gestures towards the political opposition, notably by provisionally releasing from prison several high-ranking individuals associated with former President Laurent Gbagbo. The Government has also taken steps towards addressing the root causes of the Ivorian crisis, including by enacting legislation on land tenure issues and nationality, which are critical for the national reconciliation process. Dialogue between the Government and 11 opposition parties in the context of the permanent framework of dialogue continues, and has resulted in important progress in the political reconciliation process.

While the former ruling party, the Front populaire ivoirien (FPI), still refuses to participate in the permanent framework of dialogue, important advances were made with respect to direct dialogue between the FPI and the Government as well as with the ruling party. In early December, the FPI and the Rassemblement des républicains (RDR) met for the first time in a decade. The holding of that meeting in a cordial atmosphere generated important momentum, and I welcome the shared commitment expressed by both parties to continuing further dialogue in a reconciliatory manner.

The FPI also resumed direct dialogue with the Government in September and held meetings, most recently on 15 January. Although there was no concrete breakthrough on outstanding issues, those meetings are an important demonstration of the will of political stakeholders in Côte d'Ivoire to address their differences through constructive dialogue. As the report before the Council indicates, the FPI has proposed the establishment of a new dialogue forum — the états généraux de la République, which would include a wider spectrum of civil society — that the President has agreed to review closely.

The Government has made efforts to advance security sector reform. It has also set an ambitious target of disarming the full caseload of former combatants by June 2015. In the area of human rights, the Government has extended the mandate of the special investigation and examination cell, which is tasked with investigating crimes committed during the post-electoral crisis. Meanwhile, during his New Year address to the nation, President Ouattara announced that he had requested the Minister of Justice to review the possibility of releasing additional prisoners detained during the post-electoral crisis. He also reiterated the Government's commitment to intensifying efforts to ensure the voluntary and

safe return of political refugees, with the support of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the respective countries where the political refugees reside. We have already witnessed the return of several senior officials and military personnel affiliated with former President Gbagbo and the FPI, and refugees across the borders with Liberia, Ghana and Guinea. Those actions have contributed to enhancing the political climate in Côte d'Ivoire.

Côte d'Ivoire's economy is on a fast track to recovery and growth rates are impressive. That is due in part to enhanced political stability and the financial support of its international partners. It is also worth noting that the Government has continued to strengthen its presence at the local level, including through the recent nomination of members of the corps préfectoral. At the same time, local and traditional leaders are increasingly engaged in supporting social cohesion. They are also closely engaged in addressing intercommunity tensions and the challenges with regard to the evacuation of protected forests, particularly in the west.

Notwithstanding the good progress that is being made and the Government's genuine resolve, Côte d'Ivoire has continued to grapple with security-related challenges and the situation remains fragile. Recurrent incidents of intercommunity and ethnic violence, as well as armed robbery and organized crime, continue to pose a major challenge to stability and security. The national security apparatus still requires considerable reform, including in order to rid it of those elements that are involved in incidents of violence and abuse. The lack of clarity with regard to the status of dozos, or traditional hunters, further contributes to the insecurity and poses a threat to the human rights of citizens in many areas of the country. The Government has responded proactively to addressing the violence by launching in November, with the support of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI), an operation aimed at disbanding armed groups and removing illegal checkpoints.

In the west of the country, serious threats to peace and security persist due to the illegal circulation of weapons, coupled with networks affiliated with the former regime, former combatants and other criminal elements on the border with Liberia. In addition, most of the root causes to the conflict are still to be fully addressed in that region. On a positive note, the good cooperation between the Governments of Côte d'Ivoire and Liberia, as well as between UNOCI and the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL), continues to yield good results and we have not witnessed a major cross-border attack in nearly a year.

Earlier this month, I visited several localities in the west of Côte d'Ivoire, where I met community and religious leaders and local authority representatives. There, I again witnessed the fragility of the situation on the ground and the need for the international community to remain alert and fully engaged in order to ensure that the times of chaos, violence and insecurity are buried deeply in the past. My interlocutors stressed the importance of promptly addressing the root causes of the conflict and of ensuring that justice is served.

UNOCI is in the process of reconfiguring its military component and of consolidating its presence in the west and other high-risk areas, as requested by the Council. By the end of December, the Société Général de Surveillance had been withdrawn from the country and the national security institutions had assumed full responsibility for providing the security of high-ranking members of Government and other political figures. By the end of June, we will have completed the drawdown of 1,700 troops, as requested by resolution 2112 (2013), ensuring a strengthened force capacity in the west. UNOCI is also working closely with the Secretariat on planning for the appropriate composition, posture and strength of the UNOCI force up until and during the Ivorian elections, which will be developed in the context of a strategic review of UNOCI and UNMIL that will take place next month. Specific proposals will be provided to the Council in our May report.

The promotion of a culture of respect for human rights is essential to successful national reconciliation. It is of crucial importance that impunity for human rights violations end and that the perpetrators be brought to justice, irrespective of their status or political affiliation. I remain concerned about the lack of progress in bringing to justice the perpetrators of the most heinous attacks committed in 2012, including those on the Nahibly camp for internally displaced persons and the killing of seven United Nations peacekeepers in Para.

The United Nations in Côte d'Ivoire and the Government have worked closely to develop ambitious yet realistic benchmarks for sustainable peace, which are annexed to the report before the Council. We will continue to work closely with the Government in order to achieve those important benchmarks. As requested

by the Council, UNOCI and the United Nations country team conducted an extensive evaluation of UNOCI's mandate with a view to identifying those tasks that could eventually be handed over to the country team and the broad timelines for that possible handover. The preliminary results of that exercise are provided as an annex to the report before the Council.

However, I wish to underscore two points raised by the Secretary-General in his report. First, the resource constraints facing the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes in a stabilizing context such as that of Côte d'Ivoire have put severe limits on the capacity of those bodies to assume additional tasks. Many agencies have been forced to close or limit their operations in Côte d'Ivoire owing to more pressing challenges elsewhere in the world. Secondly, more fundamental is the importance of ensuring that peacekeeping transitions, both security and civilian, in any country underscore the primary goal and objective of handing over any residual peacekeeping tasks to the sovereign authorities of the country. Going forward, that is what we will be prioritizing in Côte d'Ivoire, working closely with the Government.

Looking ahead, as Côte d'Ivoire and many of its neighbours in the West African region move towards presidential elections in 2015, it is important to work now to put in place the conditions for an environment conducive to peaceful elections. In that regard, considerable progress will be needed in key areas, notably with regard to electoral reforms, disarmament and security sector reform. Côte d'Ivoire will continue to need support in consolidating the gains achieved to date.

It is essential to continue to press upon the Ivorian leaders the need to preserve the gains made so far and to engage in dialogue in a spirit of mutual accommodation, in particular in the preparation of the election in 2015. That is particularly important as there has been a recent resurgence of hate speech in some media outlets. The international community cannot allow for such a trend to take root or to be tolerated as that was one of the triggers of the 2010 crisis. In that regard, I am engaging closely with political, religious and community leaders, who have an important role to play in defusing tension and condemning such behaviour.

The continued support of the Security Council, Member States and international and regional partners remains essential in order to enable the country to overcome the numerous challenges, particularly with regard to security, national cohesion and genuine political dialogue. It is equally important that the United Nations be fully equipped to continue to fulfil its responsibility in supporting the Government's efforts to stabilize the security situation, protect civilians, strengthen State authority and promote reconciliation. I wish to thank the Council for its continued support for our collective effort in support of the people and Government of Côte d'Ivoire as they stride towards sustainable stability.

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): I thank Ms. Souleymane for her briefing.

I now give the floor to the representative of Côte d'Ivoire.

Mr. Bamba (Côte d'Ivoire) (*spoke in French*): My delegation takes note of the excellent report of the Secretary-General contained in document S/2013/761, of 24 December 2013. We thank the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Côte d'Ivoire, Ms. Aïchatou Mindaoudou Souleymane, for her outstanding briefing on the situation in Côte d'Ivoire. We congratulate her on the remarkable work she has accomplished in such a short time since her arrival in Côte d'Ivoire six months ago.

I would like to make a few brief comments on some aspects that my delegation views as critical with respect to the security situation, political dialogue, the national reconciliation process and economic recovery.

With regard to the security situation, we agree with the report of the Secretary-General that the security situation has improved significantly since the Head of State assumed responsibility for the defence sector. During the past year, no major attack against the security forces or public institutions was noted. The establishment of the Centre for the Coordination of Operational Decisions has reduced the incidence of serious crimes such as raids and armed robberies. That has led to a positive trend in the security index recognized by the United Nations, which rose from 3.8 in 2012 to 1.3 in 2013 across the country.

That improvement has created conditions conducive to the return of international organizations that had left the country — including the Japan External Trade Organization, AfricaRice, the African Development Bank, which will be in the country until 2015, and the Regional Office of UNESCO — and to the planned establishment of a regional office of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in Côte d'Ivoire. However,

as the Special Representative noted, concerns remain with regard to the border with Liberia, given the ongoing presence of mercenaries and the illegal trafficking of weapons.

Nevertheless, we note significant calm in the west of the country. No attacks have been reported there for over a year. Thus, the situation has improved significantly following the strengthening of the quadripartite cooperation among the security services of the Côte d'Ivoire, those of Liberia, the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI) and the United Nations Mission in Liberia.

With regard security sector reform (SSR), major activities undertaken by the Ministry of Defence include the strengthening of the legal and institutional frameworks and the reorganization of the armed forces; the strengthening of the managerial and operational capacities of the army; the improvement of the security situation; the promotion of unity within the army and the bolstering of social cohesion; the promotion of the spirit of defence; the management of the military forces; the development of a training system; contributions to subregional, regional and international peace and stability; and the promotion of good governance.

I would like to point out that the Head of State personally presided over 43 sessions of the National Security Council and the Prime Minister presided over six sessions. Some 32 per cent of the SSR goals have been met, and 44 per cent are in the process of being met. The remaining 24 per cent should soon be met. In that regard, we thank our partners, in particular UNOCI, and all of our international, bilateral and multilateral partners, who provide valuable assistance, especially in the framework of the consultative group that meets monthly to take stock of the SSR situation in Côte d'Ivoire.

With regard to disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR), as of 31 December 2013 the Authority for Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration had returned or reintegrated 27,351 former combatants, representing 91 per cent of the goal of 30,000 sought for the end of 2013. Weapons collected include 6,521 Kalashnikov assault rifles, 6,398 grenades, 409 shells, 632 rockets and 390,777 munitions. It should also be noted that the DDR process led by the Côte d'Ivoire Government is fully inclusive in that it integrates former combatants from both sides without exception. There are branches of the DDR Authority in the south in Abdijan; in the centre in Bouaké; in the north, in Korhogo, Ferké, Boundiali and Bouna; and in the west, in Man, Duékoué, Toulepleu, Guiglo and San Pedro. The DDR Authority was even able to account for former combatants who fled to Togo, Ghana and Liberia.

With respect to funding, the State of Côte d'Ivoire has financed 80 per cent of that process. In that regard, we would like to thank UNOCI, the European Union, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the World Bank and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) for their support for the process. I note that there are still 47,000 former combatants to be reintegrated or returned. The task is daunting, but thanks to the experience of the Authority for DDR, we hope that by the end of 2015 all former combatants will be effectively reintegrated or reinstated. In that regard, we wish to thank in advance the European Union, the African Development Bank and the Government of Japan, which have indicated their intention to join UNOCI, UNDP, the World Bank and IFAD in helping Côte d'Ivoire to achieve all its DDR goals.

With regard to the particular case of the dozos, the traditional hunters who participated in some clashes during the post-election crisis, which the Special Representative of the Secretary-General mentioned, initiatives have already been undertaken by the Ministry of the Interior and Security to urge them to return to their traditional activities. That commitment was strongly reiterated recently by President Alassane Ouattara in his capacity as supreme commander of the army.

With regard to political dialogue, we welcome the thaw in the political situation in Côte d'Ivoire, as was underscored by the Special Representative. In that regard, President Alassane Ouattara has demonstrated his leadership in creating a peaceful political environment and give the opposition room to better express its differences of opinion in a democratic context. That commitment has been exressed in powerful gestures, such as the provisional release of 14 members of the former regime and the upcoming review of other cases that could also benefit from that measure; decisions taken by the Council of Ministers to unfreeze the bank accounts of members of the former regime; and appeals by the President to the politicalopponents and army officers and soldiers in exile to return to the country.

The President of the Republic's initiatives have led to a relaxing of the situation, which we commend. That

was constructively manifested by the resumption on 15 January of direct dialogue between the opposition and the Government, which is promising; the effective return to Côte d'Ivoire on 17 January of the former Director General of the Autonomous Port of Abidjan, a leading member of the party of former President Gbagbo; and the return from exile of 1,288 former members of the Forces de défense et de sécurité with a guarantee for their safety, who were welcomed on Friday, 24 January at a ceremony held in the parade grounds of the Ministry of Defence, thanks to an appeal launched by President Alassane Ouattara. Before arriving, I was informed that the former Minister of Defence of President Gbagbo had also returned to Côte d'Ivoire this weekend.

Along the same lines, it is worth mentioning the draft law on the status of the opposition, which has been adopted by the Council of Ministers and will soon be submitted to the National Assembly, as well as the draft text on the funding of political parties. All of those developments clearly indicate President Alassane Ouattara's intention to firmly establish a genuine and transparent culture of democracy in Côte d'Ivoire.

With regard to national reconciliation, after two years of operation the Truth, Dialogue and Reconciliation Commission officially provided its report to the President on 21 November 2013. The report recommends in particular the effective implementation of the rural land law, the adoption of a gender perspecyive in the country's overall policies, the reduction of inequalities in regional development, the establishment of a republican army with appropriate and modern resources, good governance, the fight against impunity and the strengthening of democracy. On that occasion, the President of the Commission noted that the majority of Ivoirians consulted want to uncover the truth about the period from 1990 to 2011 to be established. The Dialogue, Truth and Reconciliation Commission therefore intends to make a public appeal to those who were victims between 1990 and 2011.

With regard to the economic recovery, under the leadership of President of the Republic and with the coordination of the Prime Minister, Côte d'Ivoire is experiencing a robust economic recovery, as evidenced by the growth rate of 8 per cent achieved in 2013, and that of 9 per cent predicted for 2014. The country is consolidating its position as the world's leading cocoa producer, having produced 1,449,000 tons of cocoa beans in 2012-2013, representing 40 per cent of world cocoa production.

In general, numerous economic and social infrastructure construction or restoration projects have been completed or are in progress, in particular in the sectors of roads, water, education, health, social housing and energy. Regarding the energy sector, it should be noted that the sixth gas turbine of the Ivorian Electricity Production Company, a private operator, came into service last week, increasing the production capacity of the national grid by 1,600 gigawatt hours a year.

It is useful to recall that an international forum to promote investment will be held in Abidjan between 29 January and 1 February. Some 2,200 participants are expected, and the forum will be of great relevance to the economic recovery of Côte d'Ivoire.

On the basis of all of these positive developments, the Government of Côte d'Ivoire, fully aligned with the United Nations approach, supports the planned drawdown and reconfiguration of UNOCI's military and police presence between now and 2015, as mentioned in the report before us.

Finally, the Government of Côte d'Ivoire, aware of its primary responsibility to re-establish lasting peace and stability in the country, is committed to playing its full role in achieving the operational objectives agreed in coordination with the United Nations, in the context of the strategic planning of the transition from UNOCI to a Peacebuilding Commission configuration.

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): There are no more names inscribed on the list of speakers. I now invite Council members to informal consultations to continue our discussion on the subject.

The meeting rose at 10.45 a.m.

United Nations S/PV.7103

Security Council

Sixty-ninth year

Provisional

7103rd meeting

Tuesday, 28 January 2014, 10 a.m.

New York

President:	Prince Zeid Ra'ad Zeid Al-Hussein	(Jordan)
Members:	Argentina	Mr. Oyarzábal
	Australia	Ms. King
	Chad	Mr. Mangaral
	Chile	Mr. Errázuriz
	China	Mr. Liu Jieyi
	France	Mr. Araud
	Lithuania	Ms. Murmokaitė
	Luxembourg	Ms. Lucas
	Nigeria	Mr. Laro
	Republic of Korea	Mr. Oh Joon
	Russian Federation	Mr. Iliichev
	Rwanda	Mr. Gasana
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Mr. Sherman
	United States of America	Mr. DeLaurentis

Agenda

The situation in the Central African Republic

Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in the Central African Republic (S/2013/787)

This record contains the text of speeches delivered in English and of the interpretation of speeches delivered in the other languages. The final text will be printed in the *Official Records of the Security Council*. Corrections should be submitted to the original languages only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room U-506.

14-21861 (E)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.05 a.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation in the Central African Republic

Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in the Central African Republic (S/2013/787)

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): In comformity with rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure, I invite the representative of the Central African Republic to participate in this meeting.

In accordance with rule 39 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure, I invite His Excellency Mr. Thomas Mayr-Harting, Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations, to participate in this meeting.

The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda.

Members of the Council have before them document S/2014/54, which contains the text of a draft resolution submitted by Australia, Chad, Chile, France, Luxembourg, Lithuania, Nigeria, the Republic of Korea, Rwanda, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

I should like to draw the attention of the Council to document S/2013/787, which contains the report of the Secretary-General on the situation in the Central African Republic.

It is my understanding that the Council is ready to proceed to the vote on the draft resolution before it. I shall put the draft resolution to the vote now.

A vote was taken by show of hands.

In favour:

Argentina, Australia, Chad, Chile, China, France, Jordan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Nigeria, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Rwanda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): There were 15 votes in favour. The draft resolution has been adopted unanimously as resolution 2134 (2014).

I shall now give the floor to the member of the Council who wishes to make a statement following the adoption of the resolution.

Mr. Iliichev (Russian Federation) (*spoke in Russian*): Given the urgent need to scale up the peacekeeping presence in the Central African Republic, we supported the adoption of resolution 2134 (2014), which, inter alia, approves the deployment of a European Union operation in support of the African Union (AU) International Support Mission. We hope that the European mission will be effective in strengthening the international community's contribution to stabilizing the political and social situation and protecting civilians in the country.

Given the leading role of the AU peacekeeping contingent, which has already received the approval of the Security Council, we think it would have been suitable and logical for Brussels to have entered into a formal agreement with the AU before the adoption of resolution 2134 (2014). Unfortunately, that did not take place. Indeed, in the preparation of such decisions, the Security Council has to have all the relevant information on the parameters of the future cooperation and division of labour between the peacekeeping operations and the Central African Republic.

The resolution of those issues will have a great impact on the effectiveness of the AU's activities and the normalization of the situation in the country. Accordingly, we hope that Brussels will conclude all the necessary agreements and procedures and draw up the practical aspects of cooperation with the AU before the deployment of its own operations.

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): I now give the floor to His Excellency Mr. Thomas Mayr-Harting, Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations.

Mr. Mayr-Harting (*spoke in French*): It is my honour to speak on behalf of the European Union (EU). I would like to thank the Security Council for having invited me to take part in today's important Council meeting.

Allow me to begin by congratulating the Security Council on its unanimous adoption of resolution 2134 (2014), on the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in the Central African Republic (BINUCA), which also contains a mandate for a European Union military operation in that country in crisis.

The European Union commends the activities of the African Union through the swift deployment of the African-led International Support Mission in the

Central African Republic (MISCA) and the support provided to it by the France's Operation Sangaris, pursuant to resolution 2127 (2013). Those efforts together have allowed for progress on the security front to shore up the conditions necessary for a return to stability in the country.

In that context, the Foreign Affairs Council of the European Union indicated its political agreement on 20 January 2014 on the prospects of a military operation in the Central African Republic in support of MISCA and the French forces and approved the concept of operations to put an end to the crisis. The authorization for the operation by the Security Council in the resolution adopted today will allow for the swift establishment and deployment of that operation.

The end goal of the EU operation will be to make a contribution with MISCA to the regional and international efforts to protect the most vulnerable populations and to facilitate the movement of civilian stakeholders. That will create conditions conducive to providing humanitarian assistance to those in need. By contributing to security in Bangui, the EU operation will allow for MISCA and the French troops to be gradually deployed to the provinces. That goal takes fully into account resolution 2127 (2013) and MISCA's mandate.

The European Union highlights the need for close cooperation with partners, in particular with the authorities of the Central African Republic, the African Union, the Economic Community of Central African States, the United Nations and France, so as to ensure high quality cooperation and complementarity in the efforts undertaken to restore stability in the Central African Republic.

The European Union would urge the international community to continue to mobilize in favour of the Central African Republic, in particular in the context of the donor conference on MISCA to place in Addis Ababa on 1 February upon invitation of the African Union. All of the European Union's activities in the Central African Republic are in step with its comprehensive approach to the situation on the humanitarian, security and development aid fronts. Accordingly, the high-level meeting jointly organized by Commissioner Kristalina Georgieva and Assistant Secretary-General Valerie Amos mobilized more than $500 million for humanitarian activities in the Central African Republic. Moreover, the European Union has already bilaterally pledged €50 million for the financing of MISCA.

As the leading contributor to official development assistance in the Central African Republic, the European Union is committed to swiftly reviewing, in coordination with international financial institutions, all the measures that would allow for rebuilding the State and prevent an exacerbation of the effects of the crisis on the civilian population. The European Union undertakes to start considering right away modalities for cooperation in the areas of the rule of law and security sector reform. The EU is also planning to resume its cooperation projects as soon as security conditions allow it, in order to fully play a role in the rebuilding of the Central African Republic.

The European Union would urge the international community to provide a substantial response to the basic needs of the Central Africa population, using a comprehensive approach that clearly sets out emergency aid and development aid and coordinates players in development with the international financial institutions.

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): There are no more names inscribed on the list of speakers. The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on its agenda.

The meeting rose at 10.15 a.m.

United Nations S/PV.7104

Security Council

Sixty-ninth year

Provisional

7104th meeting
Tuesday, 28 January 2014, 10.20 a.m.
New York

President:	Prince Zeid Ra'ad Zeid Al-Hussein	(Jordan)
Members:	Argentina	Mr. Oyarzábal
	Australia	Ms. King
	Chad	Mr. Mangaral
	Chile	Mr. Errázuriz
	China	Mr. Liu Jieyi
	France	Mr. Araud
	Lithuania	Ms. Murmokaitė
	Luxembourg	Ms. Lucas
	Nigeria	Mrs. Ogwu
	Republic of Korea	Mr. Oh Joon
	Russian Federation	Mr. Iliichev
	Rwanda	Mr. Gasana
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Mr. Sherman
	United States of America	Mr. DeLaurentis

Agenda

The situation in Burundi

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Office in Burundi (S/2014/36)

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14-21867 (E)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.20 a.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation in Burundi

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Office in Burundi (S/2014/36)

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): Under rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure, I invite the representative of Burundi to participate in this meeting.

On behalf of the Council, I welcome His Excellency Mr. Laurent Kavakure, Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Burundi.

Under rule 39 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure, I invite Mr. Parfait Onanga-Anyanga, Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Office in Burundi, to participate in this meeting.

Under rule 39 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure, I invite His Excellency Mr. Paul Seger, Permanent Representative of Switzerland and Chair of the Burundi configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission, to participate in this meeting.

The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda.

I wish to draw the attention of Council members to document S/2014/36, which contains the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Office in Burundi.

I now give the floor to Mr. Parfait Onanga-Anyanga.

Mr. Onanga-Anyanga: It is a great pleasure, Sir, to see you as President of the Council and to see your country as a Council member for the next two years. Please allow me to congratulate you on your already impressive contribution to the work of this body.

(*spoke in French*)

Let me also warmly welcome His Excellency Mr. Laurent Kavakure, Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Burundi, with whom I have had the privilege of working closely since I took office. I thank him profusely and convey once again my gratitude to the Government of Burundi for its warm welcome and our excellent relationship. They demonstrate, without doubt, the importance that Burundi attaches to the United Nations.

(*spoke in English*)

The Council has before it the comprehensive report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Burundi (S/2014/36). The report was informed by the strategic assessment mission that was conducted pursuant to resolution 2090 (2013). The findings of the mission and the final assessment by the Secretary-General are compelling. I shall therefore limit myself to a few comments.

(*spoke in French*)

I come to the Council today with my heart full of hope and optimism for Burundi's future. I come to the Council emboldened by the echo of what we may now call the spirit of Kigobe, where the National Assembly of Burundi met from 19 to 20 December 2013 and the President brought together all political actors and representatives of Burundian civil society for national consultations on Burundi's future constitution. The Burundian nation and international observers unanimously welcomed that great moment of harmony, which entrenched the virtues of dialogue and the search for consensus on major issues of national interest. For those who know a bit about Burundi, what happened at Kigobe was in line with the Arusha Peace and Reconciliation Agreement for Burundi, which remains to this day a strong expression of Burundians' desire to forge a common destiny.

Since then, Burundi has continued its progress towards building a lasting peace and strengthening its democratic institutions. In particular, the country successfully held two elections in 2005 and 2010, and established national armed forces that form the bedrock of security throughout the country. Those forces are now the pride of Burundi, and their role in maintaining international peace and security and the sacrifices they have made in doing so inspire respect and admiration.

However, I also come here in the awareness that, as far as our wonderful peacebuilding work in Burundi has come, it remains unfinished. That fact has been noted by more people than just the Secretary-General. It is the conviction first and foremost of the Government and people of Burundi. It is indeed at the very heart of the efforts to build a consensual society that are expressed in several national policy documents, including the Vision Burundi 2025 and the second version of

Strategic Framework for Growth and the Fight against Poverty, which Ambassador Paul Seger and all of Burundi's development partners tirelessly support. The fragility and volatility of a number of key indicators indeed justify such commitment. Giving Burundi every chance to set its development process on a firm footing and win the fight against poverty is indeed vital to lasting peacebuilding and social cohesion.

More recently, the Burundian political class met from 27 to 29 November 2013 in Bujumbura to evaluate for the first time the road map adopted by consensus at the workshop held from 11 to 13 March 2013. They recognized, without skirting the issue, that the climate of mistrust among the main political actors, the absence of a consensual process for revising the Constitution, intolerance and political violence involving, in particular, young people affiliated with certain political parties, and the limitations to the exercise of public freedoms were among the pressing challenges that had to be urgently addressed.

You yourself, Mr. President, have taken the initiative to convene tomorrow, 29 January, an important thematic debate on the lessons to be drawn from war and the search for a permanent peace. I heed your warning that a poor management of collective memory can threaten the future peace and stability of nations. That warning applies to Burundi, where the process of taking ownership of the justice mechanisms transition remains unfinished.

For all those reasons, the Secretary-General himself has endeavoured to raise awareness among Burundian authorities at the highest level of the need for sustained political support by the United Nations. The Secretary-General's offer is aimed at supporting national efforts in the delicate transition towards enhanced political dialogue, respect for and the protection of the rights of all, and the establishment of strong democratic institutions, including through the upcoming 2015 elections. The Government is committed to ensuring that those elections are transparent, fair and peaceful. If they are well organized, the elections could mark the end of the transition in Burundi's peacebuilding process. The peacebuilding priority plan that we jointly drafted and signed in December 2013 should facilitate the achievement of that important goal.

The Secretary-General's recommendation fully takes into account the desire for greater national ownership expressed by the Government of Burundi. However, it also relies on the assessment of the benchmarks that structure our peacebuilding efforts in Burundi, in agreement with the Government and in accordance with the relevant mandates of the Security Council. Finally, this recommendation also takes into account the fact that the United Nations country team, which should bear most of the responsibilities assigned to the United Nations Office in Burundi, may not be equipped in the short term to effectively undertake those important tasks. The same can be said of the role that regional and subregional African organizations could play.

I welcome the efforts of the Government and of millions of Burundians who strive daily for a future Burundi that is more united, peaceful and prosperous. However, that task, as appreciated as it is, is not over and requires the support of the Security Council and the international community, in particular in a regional context that is constantly changing.

I am pleased about the friendly dialogue that is continuing on that issue with the Burundian authorities so that the noble goals of peacebuilding and conflict prevention can unite and strengthen in a timely way the legitimate will for greater national ownership. Minister Kavakure will certainly be able to give us more information on the views of the Government of Burundi in that regard.

(*spoke in English*)

The Secretary-General has called upon Burundians to show visionary leadership going forward, particularly in view of the major challenges still ahead. I have no doubt that they will, and I know that the Council will remain at their side. Let us not tire of doing what is good for at the right time we will reap an abundant harvest if we do not give up. Of course, we must and can do that only with the full consent and support of the Government of Burundi.

In closing, I would like to thank members of the Council for their outstanding support to Burundians and to me personally since I assumed my duties. I would also like to thank the Chair of the Burundi configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission, my dear friend Ambassador Paul Seger, for the excellent collaboration that we have so effectively developed over the past year. In him, Burundi has a strong advocate.

Please allow me to extend my thanks and appreciation to the Government of Burundi for their hospitality, cooperation and willingness to work with me for the advancement of peace in Burundi. I will be ever

indebted to the Secretary-General for the opportunity to assist him in the pursuit of world peace and security. Last but not least, I am most grateful to my colleagues, both in Bujumbura and here at Headquarters, for their invaluable support.

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): I thank Mr. Onanga-Anyanga for his briefing.

I now give the floor to Mr. Seger.

Mr. Seger (*spoke in French*): Like Mr. Parfait Onanga-Anyanga, I would first like to warmly congratulate you, Mr. President, on your assumption of the presidency of the Security Council. As I have the privilege of knowing you personally, I know that you do not like Permanent Representatives to use a written text so this time I will not use such a text.

On the one hand, I would like to thank the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for his briefing and to simply recall that the report of the Secretary-General on the issue of Burundi (S/2014/36) is fully relevant. Yesterday, I also submitted my own report to the Security Council. I do not wish to come back to that now but would just like to make two or three additional comments.

Before doing so, I would once again like to thank Mr. Parfait Onanga-Anyanga, who is not only an excellent Special Representative but also a friend. I think that our success to date in building peace in Burundi is certainly also due to the fact that, as Special Representative of the Secretary-General and the Peacebuilding Commission, we have worked hand in hand and, I hope, will continue to do so. But that success is thanks, too, to the excellent cooperation with the Government of Burundi. Here, I would also like to thank my neighbour on my right, the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Burundi, with whom I have truly had the privilege of having an excellent relationship.

I would like to step back a little. Last June, I wrote that the country had made considerable, or exceptional progress. What we must do now — and it is even more important at this stage — is to stay the course and to maintain what I call the gains of the Arusha Peace and Reconciliation Agreement for Burundi and of the Geneva Partners Conference of October 2012. If we stay that course, I am sure that we will succeed and come out as winners. But, as in a marathon, the last kilometres are always the most difficult and I believe that we are now in our final kilometre. That is why it is so important to stay the course.

Here, I would like to mention three elements that I think are particularly important in that regard. As Mr. Parfait Onanga-Anyanga has already said, an important aspect is the constitutional review that is currently under way. It is truly crucial for us, the Government and the country to uphold that spirit of consensus and also of the Arusha accords. We must focus primarily on the parts of the Constitution on which there is consensus. Moreover, the Burundi configuration wrote a letter to the President of the National Assembly precisley to encourage him along those lines. That is my first piece of advice.

My second piece of advice, which the Special Representative of the Secretary-General also mentioned, concerns the 2015 elections. There, I think that we are also on the right track. The opposition parties with whom I spoke are ready to take part in the 2015 elections and not to make the same mistake that they committed in 2010. However, precisely in order to enable everyone to participate in the electoral process fairly and openly, the environment and the political and legal framework must be truly fair, open and transparent. There, as Mr. Parfait Onanga-Anyanga said, with regard to the Imbonerakure youth league, the unrest that sometimes occurs must come to an end.

Thirdly, another aspect that I also believe to be important for peacebuilding and unity is the issue of land and other property. As the Council probably knows, a new law that gave the National Commission for Land and Other Property new powers was adopted on 31 December. All that, to put it in a sentence, in the context of restoring the property of those who were deprived of it in 1972 and later.

It is important that justice be rendered but also that it be done in a fair and just way that respects the principles of reconciliation and peace. Everyone told me that there is a significant ethnic connotation to that dimension. That is truly something that we must bear in mind. It is part of what the Arusha accords achieved.

I myself have said, and the President of the Republic has reiterated — it is perhaps a rather common saying — that there is no peace without development and no development without peace. In that context, when I spoke with the development banks — the African Development Bank and the World Bank, with whom I spoke in order to mobilize resources — the two banks

also told me that they have some concerns about the country's future in the context of the investments that they have made and continue to make in the country. A political commission like ours making such an analysis is one thing but if a bank, which by definition is not a political institution, reaches the same conclusion, I think that that is something that should make us listen. What is also interesting is that the representatives of the banks told me that the political support of the United Nations, for them, is an assurance for the investment that they are making in the well-being of the country. Something that we should also perhaps bear in mind is that it is really good for the country for economic and social reasons that it be supported by the United Nations.

I come back to the image of the marathon that I mentioned earlier. When I was younger and my knees would allow it, I ran half-marathons, not full marathons. I remember that during the first one I ran, it was very hot. I reached the twentieth kilometre and could go no further. At one point, a friend came out of the crowd and accompanied me for the last two or three kilometres, which made it possible for me to finish the race.

I think that we are in exactly the same situation with respect to Burundi. We still need some support to finish the race, and I am sure that with that support we are all going to be winners.

Obviously, when it comes to the principle of national ownership, as the Special Representative said, Burundi has every right to demand that the mandate of the United Nations Office in Burundi come to an end. But if that is the case, I would urge everyone in the Chamber, Burundi and the Security Council that this outcome and transition be undertaken in a way that ensures the continuity of United Nations support. If I understand correctly, the Government wants to continue to work with the United Nations, but in another form. Therefore, let us make sure that the transition occurs in a way that would allow the United Nations to take up those duties through the country team and other functions. Instead of creating artificial deadlines now, in my opinion we need to think about duties. What do we need to do to allow the United Nations to take up new duties in a smooth and unproblematic way?

I would just like to tell the Council that, I, as Chair, and the configuration remain at the country's disposal, if it would like more support. However, I would also like to tell the Security Council that we cannot replace a permanent political presence of the United Nations on the ground. Let us be aware of that fact, and of the configuration's limitations.

I would like to conclude by saying that I share the optimism expressed by Mr. Parfait Onanga-Anyanga about the future of the country. We do not need very much for things to move in the right direction. And in the spirit of prevention and of concluding the peacebuilding successfully, we must maintain that support. I think that, with that, we shall succeed.

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): I thank Mr. Seger for his briefing.

I now give the floor to the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Burundi.

Mr. Kavakure (Burundi) (*spoke in French*): It is a pleasure for me to convey, on behalf of the Government of Burundi and myself, the sincere greetings of the President of the Republic, Mr. Pierre Nkurunziza, to all members of the Security Council. I have been asked in particular to convey the President's best wishes to the Secretary-General and all members of the United Nations system, and his hope that 2014 will be a year of good health for the representatives and their respective families and of success for all the projects they undertake.

I would be remiss were I not to express my gratitude to the President of the Security Council and the Chair of the Burundi configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission for their open cooperation with our Government and all their efforts in the context of peacebuilding in Burundi.

We would also like to acknowledge the United Nations Office in Burundi (BNUB) and in particular the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Mr. Parfait Onanga-Anyanga, for his praiseworthy contribution to peacebuilding in Burundi.

On the occasion of the presentation of the report of the Secretary-General on Burundi (S/2014/36), we must come to a decision on the future of our cooperation with a view to strengthening the achievements in the areas of democracy and peace in our country. I would like to share some considerations on this item with Council members.

I should like briefly to summarize the mission's history. The Peacebuilding Commission was created by resolution 1645 (2005) adopted on 20 December 2005. Burundi, with other countries emerging from conflict, such as Liberia and Sierra Leone, has been subject to the

Commission's peacebuilding programme since 23 June 2006. A United Nations office tasked with monitoring that programme, the Peacebuilding Support Office, and the Peacebuilding Fund, established to finance related projects, were also created.

Since then, the Office in charge of the programme in New York and the United Nations Office in Burundi — originally the United Nations Integrated Office in Burundi (BINUB) — have worked with the Burundian Government and other local and international partners in many priority areas, including good governance, the strengthening of the rule of law, the rebuilding of communities, land issues, the mobilization and coordination of regional integration, and the gender dimension. That work has been carried out through various commitments, informal and formal meetings, and on-site visits. The follow-up of the Burundi peacebuilding programme was also undertaken by the Burundi configuration. The chairmanship of the configuration was held first by Norway in 2007, then Sweden in 2008, and by Switzerland since 2009.

The gradual drawdown of the United Nations Operation in Burundi was the result of a compromise between the United Nations and Burundi, in light of the fact that the political, social and security situations were increasingly improving. It was therefore time to transform the mission into the United Nations Integrated Office in Burundi with a mandate to build peace and strengthen national capacities.

The transformation of BINUB into BNUB, with a light footprint, for a first reporting period beginning 1 January 2011 was, as we all know, motivated by a political, social and security situation that was also becoming increasingly manageable. It therefore followed that there was a need to continue building peace and combatting poverty, which are the principal enemies of Burundian society. The objective of the Office was to develop, together with the Government, a series of criteria for the future transformation of the United Nations Office in Burundi into a United Nations country team and to report regularly to the Security Council on the progress achieved in that regard.

On 24 January 2013, the Government of Burundi called on the international community from this Chamber (see S/PV.6909) to take into account the significant progress made by our country in many areas and to move to a new framework for cooperation with the United Nations in carrying out the gradual transformation of BNUB into a new United Nations country team in Burundi. The Government of Burundi believed that a period of 12 months was more than enough to carry out the transformation. However, despite the fact that the Secretary-General's set of benchmarks of 10 May 2012 allowed for the beginning of the gradual transition of BNUB into a country team, the Security Council decided to extend BNUB's mandate for a second time until 15 February 2014, pursuant to resolution 2090 (2013) of 13 February 2013.

The Government of Burundi has cooperated fully with the United Nations in the thorough implementation of resolution 2090 (2013), thereby complying with all the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations in general and of its Article 25 in particular.

We transmitted a note dated 16 August 2013, to the Secretary-General reiterating the desire of the Government of the Republic of Burundi, in the view of the progress achieved in all areas, as assessed against the benchmarks for Burundi's peacebuilding programme, to see BNUB's mandate come to an end on 15 February 2014, with responsibilities transferred to the United Nations country team in Burundi, in accordance with resolution 2090 (2013), of 13 February 2013.

The letter of the Secretary-General to the President of the Republic of Burundi dated 26 December 2013, referring to the talks held in Paris on the side-lines of the Elysée Summit for Peace and Security in Africa, on 6 December 2013, brought the following points to his attention:

> "Following consultations, members of the Security Council said they were reassured by the dialogue under way between the two parties seeking a solution that would adequately combine both the desire for greater national ownership with the need to provide optimal support to national efforts so as to ensure together the success of the final stage of the peacebuilding process and the strengthening of democratic institutions. Such an approach would allow for the gradual transition from the BNUB presence towards activities focused primarily on development assistance and carried out by the United Nations country team."

In his letter to the Secretary-General dated 31 December 2013, the President of the Republic welcomed the open collaboration that exists and will always exist, as well as the various forms of support Burundi enjoys and will continue to benefit from through the United Nations. He nevertheless reaffirmed

the position of Burundi to uphold resolution 2090 (2013), which sets the end-date of BNUB's mandate as 15 February 2014, and provides for the subsequent transfer of responsibilities to the United Nations country team.

I would now like to make some comments on the report before the Council today, beginning with the democratic process. As indicated in the Secretary-General's set of benchmarks of 10 May 2012 and in paragraph 6 of the report before the Council today, inclusive political dialogue between the political parties and the Government continued and will continue in the framework of the first theme of the new peacebuilding priority plan, namely, social cohesion and national dialogue.

The Government endorses the recommendation in paragraph 17 that electoral assistance be provided to Burundi until 2015. The envisioned delivery of that assistance could very well be carried out by a United Nations country team in collaboration with other partners mentioned in the report. In our view, the link between the elections of 2015 and prolonging BNUB's mandate is not well established, given that there are other mechanisms, including election observations, that will involve a team of United Nations observers in the run-up to, during and after the elections.

With regard to part B of the report, on security and stability, the Government is of the view that development aid is precisely what is needed to respond to the problems of crime and armed robbery resulting from the poor economic conditions and high unemployment that affect a large part of the Burundian population, as the report correctly stipulates.

With respect to paragraphs 19 to 23, the Government is of the view that the professionalization of the defence and security services is a long-term task, and thanks the United Nations and other, bilateral, partners for the multifaceted support provided to date in this area. We view this as an area in which cooperation could continue with the country team and leading bilateral partners.

In that regard, the greatly appreciated presence of Burundian troops in peacekeeping operations in Haiti, the Sudan, Côte d'Ivoire and, in particular, Somalia and the Central African Republic, is an eloquent illustration that substantial progress has been made in the context of the professionalization of our defence and security forces. We are still, nonetheless, far from perfect. This is a long-term task that must continue with all of our development partners involved in this area of cooperation.

With regard to transitional justice, addressed in part C of the report, it is noted in paragraphs 24 and 25 that the Government is engaged in the process of establishing a truth and reconciliation commission. But for us, this is a matter of such great importance that we must give it the necessary time to become operational, once we have prepared the hearts of the Burundian people. In that regard, we thank BNUB for the workshops it held on this topic for representatives of the National Assembly and Senators in April and September 2013.

With regard to governance and institutional strengthening, as addressed in part D of the report, the Government of Burundi expresses its deep appreciation for the support provided to institutions involved in fighting corruption, the Office of the Ombudsman and other local partners involved in the fight against corruption, on the one hand, as well as for the workshops held to raise awareness among civil society organizations, Government officials and police officers and the army, on the other.

Regarding the developments related to the Commission nationale des terres et autres biens, the Government believes that this is a work in progress and that the outstanding issues can be considered under the fourth theme of the new peacebuilding priority plan, that is, the peaceful resolution of land disputes. It should also be emphasized that the membership of the Commission is inclusive and balanced along ethic and regional lines.

With regard to the rule of law, as addressed in part E of the report, it is clear that this is an ideal, which no country in the world has ever perfected. In that respect, the Government has undertaken a great number of initiatives, including the National Conference on Justice, the strategic plan of the Conseil supérieur de la magistrature on judicial ethics and the revision of the prison legal framework and corrections policy, all with a view to improving the Burundian justice system.

With regard to human rights, and the paragraphs of part F of the report, here too, the Government recognizes that much progress has been made in the promotion and protection of human rights. But challenges certainly remain, and the Government of Burundi recognizes that. That is why the third theme of the new peacebuilding

priority plan has been selected to continue to support, in particular, the Independent National Commission on Human Rights, whose performance has been praised by a variety of partners.

As for regional integration, it is for us a political choice inscribed in letters of gold in our two main development policy instruments: Vision Burundi 2025, which is a development planning tool that will guide policies and strategies until 2025, and the second version of its Strategic Framework for Growth and the Fight against Poverty, which is anchored in Vision Burundi 2025 and represents the federative context of all sectoral and cross-sectoral policies.

With regard to economic and social development, Burundi is aware that it cannot achieve the Millennium Development Goals by the target date. Considerable progress has been made, however, especially in the social sectors, such as education and health. In any event, development aid is essential to accelerating the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. To that end, in July and October 2013 Burundi organized sectoral conferences with its development partners so as to ensure that the promises made in Geneva in 2012 are followed up by effective engagement.

With respect to the issue of the resettlement of returnees and displaced persons, Burundi is striving with great commitment, alongside its partners, to make it a success. To that end, we have developed a national strategy for the socioeconomic reintegration of conflict-affected populations.

As to issues related to peacebuilding, as addressed under section C of part III of the report, the United Nations country team in Burundi will simply apply the peacebuilding priority plan, which is the outcome of a highly participatory and inclusive process involving all key actors, including the Government, civil society organizations, the international community and the United Nations system in Burundi.

It is important to note that in 2013, in order to consolidate peace and security, the Government launched two very important national programmes: the national security strategy and a national education and patriotic training programme. Peace and security are now a reality in Burundi, and strengthening them will remain a top priority for our Government because they are the foundation of and the appropriate framework for achieving our political, social and economic agenda.

With regard to the observations and recommendations set out in the report, the Government of Burundi takes note of the advice, contained from paragraph 66 onwards, concerning the conduct of fair, inclusive and transparent elections. In this regard and as already mentioned, the dialogue meetings among politicians, organized in March 2013, as well as the constructive atmosphere that prevailed during the consultations of 19 and 20 December 2013, are eloquent expressions of the manifest intention of the Government to ensure the success of the 2015 elections. We organized the 2005 and 2010 elections to the full satisfaction of the national and international communities, and there is no doubt that we shall do even better in 2015.

Again with respect to observations and recommendations, paragraph 75 — regarding the Secretary-General's proposal to end the BNUB mandate on 15 February 2015 by extending it for an additional 12 months — has attracted the particular attention of our Government, which had requested a transitional period of six months in order to allow for the dismantling of BNUB and the gradual transfer of its responsibilities to the United Nations country team in Burundi.

In the spirit of our harmonious collaboration and open cooperation with the Secretary-General, and after extensive consultations with various stakeholders, the Government of Burundi submits to the Security Council the following proposals.

First, we request the Council to adopt a resolution closing the United Nations Office in Burundi pursuant to resolution 2090 (2013). Secondly, we request the Secretary-General to determine the practical arrangements for the closure of BNUB and the gradual transfer of responsibilities to the United Nations country team in Burundi, with periodic — perhaps quarterly — progress reports, before the end of 2014. Thirdly, we request the Secretary-General to ensure that the new United Nations country team in Burundi is up and running by January 2015. Fourthly, we request the Secretary-General to consider the establishment, immediately after the closing of BNUB, of a team of electoral observers to be deployed before, during and after elections scheduled in Burundi in 2015.

We solemnly call on the Security Council to support and understand our position concerning the end of the BNUB mandate, the objective of which is to close, in

harmony and in concert, a very successful mission that will remain a good model for post-conflict situations.

In conclusion, we reiterate our deep appreciation for all the support that our country has enjoyed and will continue to enjoy from the United Nations system on our long road to development.

The President (*spoke in Arabic*): There are no more names inscribed on the list of speakers. I now invite Council members to informal consultations to continue our discussion on the subject.

The meeting rose at 11.10 a.m.